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Jeanette Baker

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Librarian's Note: The ISBN 0671536753 for this book was also used by "The Law Is a Lady" by Nora Roberts.

Kate Sutherland always felt out of place in brash and modern Southern California. But when she comes to her ancestral home in the Shetland Islands to seek a mystical guide who may shed light on her true heritage, Kate is plagued with visions of a life from five centuries past.... A fiery young woman of royal English blood, Catriona Wells is determined to save her family from the deadly political clashes of 15th-century Britain. But Cat's cunning is no match for Scottish border lord Patrick MacKendrick. When this powerful warrior betroths her against her will, Cat must decide whether she dares to love him -- and to trust him with lives that are more precious to her than her own.

Meanwhile Kate, whose dreams rapidly take on a reality of their own, is caught between a present-day attraction to a charming Scottish historian -- and risking everything in Catriona's dangerous world of passion and bloodshed.

Catriona Details

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Author : Jeanette Baker

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Genre : Romance, Science Fiction, Time Travel, Historical Romance, Historical, Historical Fiction, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Catriona for online ebook

KSSA says

As a dreamer to travel back at least a century I love time travel romance. This one is not really travel back in times but more like reincarnation. However storyline is interesting and characters are strong and enchanting in their own way.

~Leslie~ says

Wow, I've had this book sitting on my nook for quite a while and if I'd known how good it was I would have read it much sooner. I'm such a sucker for a good travel back in time/druidic religion/scottish history story. And this one was good. It had it's problems, but the writing was so engaging, and the characters, especially the historical ones, so gripping, that it kept me engaged. The only downside was the main character. Kate is removed from life because she is caught in something from the past. That sense of removal affects how she is presented in the book as well. It's hard to get connected to her character and so it's hard to believe the modern day romance. Everything is handled beautifully. I will definitely be looking for other books by Jeanette Baker now that I know what to expect.

Nancy says

Kate was, at best, skeptical. At least she was willing to go to Scotland to scatter her mother's ashes. She's been having dreams her entire life, but lately they'd stepped up a bit. A gorgeous man, a medieval court, words of love and lust, and Kate was in them as well. Stupefying.

Scotland is beautiful and terrifying. Her mother is still remembered in the village and, her mother still lives in the village (you'll see!). Kate meets a very nice man name Niall McCormack who tightens all her muscles and seems willing to do more, but Kate has always been "guy-shy" and won't change willingly. Niall is a scholar of history and takes Kate to The MacKendrick's home to view his ancestral documents and pictures. A great opportunity for Kate until she finds herself in a huge portrait hanging in his hall!

Catriona – the MacKendrick's wife. Kate? It seems a possibility that all of Kate's dreams will culminate in Scotland on the Shetland Islands. Right where Catriona's did. Catriona's main mission was to save her younger brother, not fall in love with Patrick MacKendrick. Did she? Either of those??

In a skillfully written historical jaunt we are flipped back and forth between Catriona's history and Kate's modern day puzzles without a hitch. The pipes play in the background as clothes all hither and thither and we learn much about Scotland's history as well as that of the ladies. Well done!

Patty says

Kate Sutherland has never quite felt right in her world. She feels further disoriented when her mother dies and she finds out she was adopted. She goes back to her mother's place of birth to scatter her ashes and learn more about where she was born. While there she starts having strange "dreams" about a woman - a cousin to

James IV, Catriona Wells.

She also meets the very handsome Niall MacCormack, a Scottish historian who falls in love with her but something is holding her back. And that something is Catriona. Kate is shocked to learn that she is the spitting image of her. She is drawn more deeply into her life and wonders if she prefers it to her own.

I have often expressed my love of time travel novels and while this book is not exactly a time TRAVEL novel it was a delightful, engrossing read that I really had a hard time putting down. In fact I didn't! I read it in one sitting. The two love stories - Catriona/Patrick and Kate/Niall were both good but the Catriona one was my favorite. She was a strong woman, ahead of her time for the most part. This book is really two in one which is what made it so much fun.

Mishel Forte says

My Rating: 3.75/5 stars!

Catriona started a bit rocky for me. I had a bit of a rough time staying focused and getting used to the jumps between Catriona Wells and Kate Sutherland. I didn't mind the different perspectives or even the different time periods...there were just moments where I felt things were moving too quickly. But when I finally found my comfy little niche I was captivated by the story and plot! I loved the historical parts of the story. This is my first time delving into Scottish history so it was a real treat! As soon as I was done I wanted to know more about James IV's story and more about Scotland. Jeanette Baker brought a lot of the characters to life and I really became interested in them.

The modern story involving Kate was more of a backdrop for me. I liked seeing how Kate's life was unfolding after she found out she was adopted and traveled to Scotland for answers. I got a bit lost when she met Maura though...The paranormal aspect of the story was also a bit iffy for me. I definitely felt the magic at times, but other times I was left a little perplexed. But don't let these observations deter you from checking this out... Catriona is a beautiful story that will appeal to a lot of readers. There are two romantic arcs to follow in the plot and like I mentioned earlier I leaned more towards the historical one involving Catriona and Patrick. Kate and Niall's relationship moved a bit too fast for me...but I still enjoyed reading it. I think I'm just in more of a historical fiction niche at the moment...

I can't express enough how strong and developed the characters were. Characters are so important to me and many other readers I'm sure. I loved the latter part of the story when the secondary characters really start to get involved with the plot. The Scotland setting, both historical and modern, was detailed and so easy to picture. Reading Catriona has definitely gotten me more interested in Scotland and I love that about good stories. I'm excited to read more of Jeanette Baker's work and I recommend Catriona to romance lovers of all kinds!

Literary Chanteuse says

3.5 stars

Christy B says

Catrina is the story of Kate Sutherland, a young woman who is having 'visions' of a woman from five centuries earlier, a woman named Catrina. When Kate's mother dies, she travels to Scotland to spread her ashes, only to come face to face with the past – literally.

Catrina was a decent enough historical romance novel, but unfortunately, it never grabbed me. I felt that certain parts moved way too fast for me. So fast that the scene was over before I really grasped what happened. The modern romance between Kate and a man named Niall also moved wicked fast to the point where I wasn't buying it.

One thing happened at the beginning of the story that bugged me, and I never let it go through to the end. I won't give it away, but at the beginning of the story Kate received some rather life altering news, the kind of news that would send anyone's life into a tailspin. The way Kate received it was like she went to the grocery store and someone told her they were out of bagels!

The historical part of the story was filled with a lot of Scottish history, set around the time of James IV of Scotland. And that's really all I got out of this novel – I learned some stuff about Scotland I didn't know before.

Maybe I just wasn't in the mood for this or what, but I wish I enjoyed it more. Folks who like historic romances set in Scotland will most likely dig this.

Judy & Marianne from Long and Short Reviews says

Originally posted at: <http://longandshortreviews.blogspot.c...>

Can the future change the past? If not, that future will suffer. In this book, the two are linked, and it goes in both directions. Interesting, magical, supernatural concepts are touched upon here. with breathtaking descriptions of setting, *Catrina* is set mostly in Scotland, the Shetland Islands.

The author has a wonderful grasp of the culture, bringing it to refreshing life. The entrancing atmosphere and feel of the story comes across as well as in Ms. Baker's other books. However, the style of writing differs from the last book of hers I read. Having read *Legacy* last I was quite impressed with the author's gift for words, elegance of phrasing etc. so chose this book (*Catrina*) to read. However, in this book, the technical execution was not as brilliant, not as graceful. Still, *Catrina* is fast-paced and attention holding.

Fascinating concepts are addressed such as (from the book) "Sometimes the windows of time open for a later self to step inside and provide help."

Kate Sutherland, Scottish born and American raised, is a great character. She goes back to Scotland filled

with questions after discovering that she was adopted. A woman from the past, from the 15th century, is calling to her in the future for help. Will Kate be able to aid this woman? The suspense is strong enough to keep one turning pages. Kate's dreams disturb her. What can she possibly do? How can she help someone who's been dead for hundreds of years? Is there anything people can do to stop fate?

Cat, Kate's counterpart in the past is a good character too, strong yet vulnerable. She has to learn to rely on someone other than herself. When reading about her time, the 15th century, the reader is treated to rich historical details.

The men in this book, Kate's Niall, and Cat's Patrick, are strong men who assertively look out for their women. The story going on in the past is a great parallel for what Kate is going through in the present with her family and romantic interest.

There are confusing parts in this book but not enough to interfere with the enjoyment of the story. The ending did not disappoint. Jeanette Baker is an author to check out for readers who love Scotland and that beautiful culture. She connects the past and present wonderfully.

Alexia Chantel says

This is a tale of courage. This is a tale of reaching deep within yourself to find the missing pieces of your soul.

Kate is so much more than a young woman searching for truth. Through her ancient bloodlines she has inherited the Sight, which enables her to read others thoughts. As if that wasn't enough to deal with she also begins to realize she has experienced life before as a young woman names Catriona.

Catriona has the fortitude and poise of a queen. That coupled with her stunning beauty made her a mark for abuse from a man in possession of herself and her brother. Forced to endure mental torture and rape you would expect her to become a broken shell. Instead she manages to get away, right into the strong protective arms of border lord Patrick.

Kate experiences Cat's life through memory while at the same time finding lost family and slowly succumbing to the love of a handsome Scott. If Kate has the strength to confront the monster that is the antithesis to Cat's goodness she will finally feel whole. Going back in time as Cat gives her a second chance to heal, only when she has done that can she finally let go and give her heart to her Scott.

Yes this is a historical romance but do not just label it as that. The main character Kate truly has to overcome and relive something that is life altering. To have the ability to willingly walk into that is a test of character anyone would hope to never have to face.

See the review at Reading Between the Wines blog:
<http://readingbetweenthewinesbookclub...>

Jules says

Jumping between centuries and different people's perspectives can be confusing and distracting if not written carefully. Jeanette Baker has done a masterful job of blending the stories of two women connected by blood and separated by time.

Strong characters are always a draw for me. I like women leads who use their brains instead of simpering and whimpering around waiting for a man to solve their problems for them. Both Kate and Catriona are dealing with issues of family, love and danger. Neither of them want to depend upon the men who have their hearts. Trusting someone else to make things right for them is not an easy thing for either of them to do.

The men in this story are remarkable and quite memorable. You have two hunky Scotsmen in the present who are both vying for Kate's attention ~ for two very different reasons. Niall is a Scottish historian and Hunter is the Laird of the Sutherlands. Catriona is married to Patrick MacKendrick for reasons that turn out to be much more than the politics intended.

I highly recommend Catriona to anyone who enjoys good historical fiction filled with romance and intrigue. A lovely romp through the ages with some fascinating characters.

Crystal ♥ RBtWBC says

Reviewed by RBtWBC reviewer, Lexy.

Lexy's Review

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<http://readingbetweenthewinesbookclub...>

Julie says

I loved this historically rich romance. Set in 17th century Scotland, Catriona, an English noble woman and cousin of King James Stuart of Scotland, runs to her monarch-cousin for help following the death of her mother. She seeks refuge for herself from abuse from her stepfather, as well as, aide for her 12-year-old brother who is under the mercy of this stepfather and the ruthless King Henry Tudor. Upon her arrival to the court of King James, she meets his devilishly handsome Scottish border lord, Patrick MacKendrick. Of course, romance ensues amidst, the danger of court and political intrigue where Catriona becomes a political tool for all sides. She finds a hero in all ways in Patrick MacKendrick, a man who can challenge Kings. The interesting twist of this romance is that all of this is "relived" through the eyes and thoughts of a 20th century woman who plays a vital role in righting a centuries-old wrong. This woman, Kate Sutherland, learns of her own mysterious heritage while witnessing the unfolding of events that happened 300 years in the past and finds her own romance waiting. Highly recommend this intricately woven, historically detailed romance!

Michelle Greathouse says

Catriona is a novel by Jeanette Baker and a Romance from SourceBooks Casablanca.

Book Blurb:

Kate Sutherland's arrival in the misty moors of her ancestral home in the Shetland Islands was supposed to cure her visions of danger, intrigue...and a sexy powerful Scottish border lord. Instead, she discovers that she's been living the tormented memories of Catriona Wells, a beautiful young woman of royal blood who lived five centuries before.

Shielding a dark secret from her past, Catriona was willing to do anything to save her young brother from the deadly politics of her royal family - even agree to an arranged marriage with the formidable Patrick MacKendrick. But would daring to love the hardened warrior who desired her so fiercely destroy her family...or finally allow her to heal?

Meanwhile, Kate is battling her own attraction to Niall MacCormack, an alluring Scottish historian. As the pull of history beckons, Kate has her own decision to make: choose the life and love of her present, or risk everything in Catriona's world of passion and peril.

My thoughts:

Kate Sutherland is a tax attorney in California. When a legal consultation takes her to Massachusetts, Kate makes the acquaintance of a practicing Wicca who remarks upon Kate's eyes - saying she has only ever seen eyes like them on one other person.

That night, Kate has a dream - a dream about another time and place.

Upon the sudden death of her mother, Kate finds out that she was adopted, and her birth parents are from Scotland. Encouraged to learn more about her ancestral home, Kate books a trip to Scotland.

Now her 'dreams' are coming more frequently, and not just when she is asleep. What seems to her to have been only minutes is in fact, hours. Kate seems to be slipping into another time, another person - her ancestor, Catriona.

Kate is determined to see these dreams to their conclusion - but she has dreams of her own. Dreams that involve an arresting Scottish historian.

Catriona is the first book I have read by Jeanette Baker and it was an enjoyable read. If you are a fan of historical romance and time-travel, Catriona is the perfect escape.

I give Catriona 3 out of 5 stars.

Product Details

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etherealfire says

Library Kindle e-book

Gaile says

Adopted as a baby from Cait Ness, Scotland and raised in Southern California, Kate Sutherland brings her mother's ashes back to the Shetlands in hopes of also finding her natural parents.

Here she opens a window in time to issues unfinished in the life of Catriona Wells, a woman living during the reigns of Henry VII Of England and James IV Of Scotland. Catriona lives in dangerous times but refuses to be a whim of political intrigue. She meets Patrick MacKendrick while in modern times she meets Niall MacCormack.

The woman on the cover of this book looks like Catherine Zeta Jones and the description of Catriona/Kate is not far off so all I had to do is mentally imagine the movie star as the appearance of the heroine in this book. This book encompasses the mythic of the old religion of the Shetland Islands, our modern life and the history of both the Stuart and Tudor regimes. Catriona seeks to save her younger brother without realizing she herself needs a rescuer. Only Kate, her look alike contemporary can reach in with a keek stane and rid her of

her fear.

As for Kate, with the memory of Patrick in her mind and a life carry over in her subconsciousness, can she love Niall?

This is the first book authored by Jeanette Baker I have ever read. This edition was first published in 1997. I missed it then. I have also missed her other books which I now need to read!
